

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 3-6, and 19, and 20 are pending in this application. Claims 2 and 7-18 have been canceled. Applicant has thoroughly reviewed the Office Action and the references cited therein. The following remarks are believed to be fully responsive to the Office Action. All of the claims are believed to be patentable over the cited references.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1 and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,604,478 to Gowens (“Gowens”). Applicant respectfully traverses. In an effort to advance prosecution, however, Applicant has amended independent claim 1 to include the allowable subject matter of claim 2. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is allowable.

Claims 3-6 ultimately depend from independent claim 1. Therefore, these claims are also allowable for at least the foregoing reasons.

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection has been overcome and request that the rejection be withdrawn.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claims 19 and 20 have been allowed.

Docket No. 27056.2640
Application No. 10/728,832
Customer No. 30734

PATENT

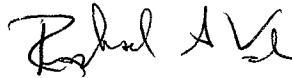
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. If it is believed that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney to expedite the prosecution of the application.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, Applicants petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fee deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-2036 with reference to Attorney Docket No. 27056.2640.

Respectfully submitted,

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